Filing Date: February 12, 2002

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Respectfully submitted,

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## VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

- (New) A process for minimizing thermal aggregation of DNase in a liquid solution <del>--</del>9. comprising introducing a DNase aggregation-inhibiting amount of sugar to a solution comprising DNase, and elevating the temperature of said DNase solution above 37°C temperature.
- (New) A process according to claim 9, wherein the temperature of said solution is 10. elevated above about 60°C.
- (New) A process according to claim 9, further comprising reducing the pH of said 11. solution below pH 7.0.
- (New) A process according to claim 11, wherein said solution is at about pH 6.5. 12.
- (New) A process according to claim 11, wherein said solution is at about pH 6. 13.
- (New) A process according to claim 11, wherein said solution is at about pH 5. 14.
- (New) A process according to claim 9, wherein said sugar is present in an amount from 15. 50 mg/ml to 200 mg/ml.

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- (New) A process according to claim 9, wherein said sugar is  $\alpha$ -lactose monohydrate, 16. mannitol, trehalose or sucrose.
- (New) The process according to claim 9, further comprising the steps of spray-drying 17. said liquid solution and collecting the spray-dried product as a respirable DNase-containing powder that is therapeutically effective when administered into the lung of an individual.
- (New) A DNase solution comprising DNase and a DNase aggregation-inhibiting amount 18. of sugar wherein said DNase solution is minimally aggregated when said solution is at a temperature greater than 37°C.
- (New) A DNase solution according to claim 18, wherein the temperature is greater than 19. about 60°C.
- (New) A DNase solution according to claim 18, wherein said solution is further kept at a 20. pH below 7.0.
- (New) A DNase solution according to claim 20, wherein said solution is at about pH 6.5. 21.
- (New) A DNase solution according to claim 20, wherein said solution is at about pH 6. 22.

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(New) A DNase solution according to claim 18, wherein said sugar is present in an 23. amount from 50 mg/ml to 200 mg/ml.

- (New) A DNase solution according to claim 18, wherein said sugar is  $\alpha$ -lactose 24. monohydrate, mannitol, trehalose or sucrose.
- (New) A DNase solution according to claim 18 that is further spray-dried to a respirable 25. DNase-containing powder that is therapeutically effective when administered into the lung of an individual.--